

REMARKS

Office Action Summary

Claims 23-49 are pending in the current application. In an Office Action mailed October 1, 2008 the Examiner objects to the original drawings, and objects to claims 40 and 49. The Examiner rejects claims 23-39, 41, 42, and 44-46 under 35 USC 112, 102, and 103. The Examiner indicates that claims 43, 47, and 48 are allowed and claim 40 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Furthermore, the Examiner indicates that claims 26-39 and 44 appear to contain allowable subject matter if Applicant overcomes the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejections. Each of the Examiners rejections and objections will now be addressed in detail.

Information Disclosure Statement

In the IDS of March 18, 2009 Applicant has respectfully filed English translations of Abstracts included in the foreign references of the IDS filed on September 14, 2008. Applicant respectfully requests enter and consideration of these English translations.

Objection to the Drawings

Please enter and consider the attached Replacement Drawing Sheets which overcome the Examiner's objection to the drawings.

Claim Objections

The dependency of claim 49 has been corrected. Claim 49 now depends from claim 47. Thus, claim 49 is in proper dependent form and the Examiner's objection is overcome.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 26-39 and 44 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. Specifically, the Examiner states the phrase "such as" in claims 26 and 44, and the phrase "about" in claim 26 render the claims indefinite. As amended herein, the phrases including "such as" and "about" have been removed from claim 26. Furthermore, the phrase "such as" has been removed from claim 44. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection has been

overcome. Claims 27-39 depend from now allowable claim 26 and are thus allowable as well. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 41 and 42 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Blaney (US 6,166,645). Herein claims 41 and 42 are cancelled. New claims 53 and 54, containing subject matter corresponding to cancelled claims 41 and 42, have been added. New claims 53 and 54 depend from now allowable claim 26 and are thus allowable as well. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 23-25, 45, and 46 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Decker (US 4,274,091) in view of Breed et al. (US 6,720,920). Herein claims 23-25, 45, and 46 are cancelled. New claims 50-52, containing subject matter corresponding to cancelled claims 23-25, have been added. New claims 50-52 depend from now allowable claim 26 and are thus allowable as well. Furthermore, new claims 56 and 57, containing subject matter corresponding to cancelled claims 45 and 46, have been added. New claims 56 and 57 depend from allowable claim 26 and are thus allowable as well. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In light of the above remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and objections. Prompt issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the below listed phone number regarding this response or otherwise concerning the present application.

Applicants hereby petition for any necessary extension of time required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) or 1.136(b) which may be required for entry and consideration of the present Reply. If there are any charges due with respect to this response, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' Attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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